



South Central District Health

1020 Washington St N \* Twin Falls ID 83301

*Keeping your family & community healthy*

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**PRESS RELEASE – For Immediate Release**

Contact: Sharlynn Van Tassell, RN, Women's Health Check Coordinator, 737-5935

**District Health Urges Women to Have a Mammogram and Pap Test**

Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October is a time for women to think about scheduling their annual mammogram and Pap test. South Central District Health, in conjunction with the Women's Health Check program, is encouraging women, especially those between the ages of 50 and 64 with limited income, to call for information about free screenings.

"The risk for breast and cervical cancer increases as you get older," said Sharlynn Van Tassell, RN, Women's Health Check Coordinator for South Central District Health, "but it is much easier to cure when found early."

"Breast cancer is the leading cancer diagnosed in women in America," said Van Tassell. "Routine screening mammography is the single most effective method to detect breast changes that may be cancer, long before physical symptoms can be seen or felt."

The Women's Health Check program offers mammograms and Pap tests at no cost to women who are age 50 or older with limited income and no health insurance to cover these procedures. Services are also available to a limited number of women under the age of 50 who have significant risk factors for breast or cervical cancer as well as meeting the income and insurance guidelines. Women who have insurance with a high deductible may also be eligible for the free screenings.

For more information about qualifying for the Women's Health Check program, call 1-800-926-2588. For additional information, contact South Central District Health in Twin Falls at 737-5935 or 737-5938. A fulltime Spanish-speaking interpreter is also available for these services.

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